evenings at the same locality in a very mild airstream, failed to produce any scarce visitors to light, though many of the more frequent immigrants were recorded. During this period an m.v. light was also operated in my garden at Brundall, and here a single male *Chrysodeixis chalcites* Esper was captured on the night of 19th-20th October. In view of the possible confusion between this species and the related *C. acuta* Walker, the specimen was shown to Dr I.J. Kitching of the Natural History Museum, who, on the basis of external features was of the opinion that it was *C. chalcites*. Subsequent dissection of the male genitalia has confirmed this determination.— A.P. FOSTER, 58 St Laurence Avenue, Brundall, Norwich, Norfolk NR13 5QN.

## Agrilus pannonicus (Piller and Mitterpacher) (Col.: Buprestidae) recorded from Mitcham Common, Surrey, in 1990

On the 29th June 1990, I casually took an example of Agrilus pannonicus from an oak leaf at the edge of the golf course on Mitcham Common. My retaining the specimen was based on its appearance and not on any notion of rarity. It therefore came as some surprise to find that this species is regarded as a grade two old woodland species (Harding and Rose 1986) which breeds in oak stumps and logs.

Mitcham Common has no history of old woodland and few oaks are much older than 60 years. It would therefore seem possible that A. pannonicus has recently colonised the site. The storm of 1987 resulted in a small number of fallen oaks, most of which have been dismembered and left in situ. This must surely favour A. pannonicus but the question remains, where did it arrive from? It would seem that this species is well-established at Ashstead Common (Menzies 1987 - 1989) an old pasture woodland, and is also known from Richmond Park (Allen, 1988). Both sites are within ten miles of Mitcham Common.

A further possible explanation for the presence of A. pannonicus is that it is perhaps not quite so uncommon as is generally accepted. There remains the possibility that the adults favour sunlit leaves higher up in the canopy and it is simply chance that occasional flying individuals are recorded (Godfrey, 1987) or a breeding population is found (Foster, 1987). A further possibility is that the hot summers of the past two years have favoured this insect which is now spreading.

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